

State of North Carolina



MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

LEAD AWARENESS MONTH

2007

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, lead poisoning, while preventable, continues to be a problem that causes major developmental delays and learning disabilities in our children; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, every year, approximately 310,000 children across the United States are exposed to lead-based paint hazards; and

WHEREAS, according to the North Carolina Department Environment and Natural Resources, in 2006, 136,626 children under the age of 6 were screened for lead poisoning in North Carolina, and 1,071 of those children screen tested for elevated lead exposures; and

WHEREAS, during the past 12 years, North Carolina has seen a dramatic 88 percent decrease in the prevalence of elevated lead exposure among children tested, from 7.0 percent in 1995 to 0.8 percent in 2006; and this momentum must be maintained in order to reach our ultimate goal of elimination by 2010; and

WHEREAS, with the cooperation of agencies within the State of North Carolina, including the Division of Environmental Health in the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Divisions of Public Health and Medical Assistance within the Department of Health and Human Services, and the State Laboratory of Public Health, we are continuing to strive to meet these goals;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL F. EASLEY, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 2007, as "**LEAD AWARENESS MONTH**" in North Carolina and urge our citizens to support further efforts to eliminate lead and the permanent damages caused by lead poisoning from the homes and schools of our State.



Michael F. Easley
MICHAEL F. EASLEY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this thirteenth day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand and seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-first.